



**Mid
Murray
Council**

2022/23
Annual Business Plan
& Budget

Acknowledgement of Country



The Mid Murray Council acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters on which we meet and work.

We pay respect to Elders past and present, recognising their important and ongoing role and connection to this ancient and beautiful land.

We are committed to working together on our reconciliation journey.

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Message from the Mayor & CEO

Council and the Mid Murray community have demonstrated commendable resilience and optimism by rising to face the challenges presented by yet another year dominated by uncertainty.

As the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions begin to reduce, we turn our focus to building on the work we've already done to support our community and economy to recover - and to discovering new ways to assist our district to thrive into the future.

As we plan for 2022-2023, we will continue to work towards the strategic goals set out in our strategic plan, Our Plan 2020-2024. This plan underpinned much of the work achieved by Council over the past year in setting and delivering on our priorities, investments and resources, and is again the basis for the 2022-2023 Annual Business Plan and Budget. This document sets out Council's proposed priority projects, services, programs and other initiatives for the coming financial year, and how we plan to fund these in an economic climate of global uncertainty and rising cost pressures.

A highlight for 2021-2022 has been taking the first steps, in partnership with our community, to develop the first Mid Murray Council Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan. Enacting this plan is a priority for 2022-2023 and will be assisted by Council's new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee.

Through the coming year, many projects will reflect Council's strategic purpose to 'work collaboratively to strengthen and enrich our community'.

We will continue to work collaboratively in partnership with key stakeholders, such as working with the State Government on its delivery of the Truro Bypass project, with other regional councils to seek funding opportunities to progress the construction of the Murray Coorong Trail, and with our district's communities to create plans for Truro and the Mannum Oval Complex.

Meeting our local infrastructure needs is a priority for 2022-2023, with a \$11.771M proposed schedule of capital projects to ensure we are providing quality facilities that meet our community's changing needs. Among these are initiatives that have been made possible through the contribution of recent State and Federal Government grants, which will provide an economic boost for the Mid Murray.

During the year ahead, Council will deliver the following projects:

- Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan implementation
- Murray Coorong Trail – stage 3 construction and seeking new funding opportunities
- Partner with Mannum Oval Complex user groups to plan, advocate and prioritise the future of the site
- Development of Truro Township Masterplan
- Development of Mid Murray Council Growth Strategy
- Development of an Economic Development strategy
- Implementation of the Astro Tourism strategy for the River Murray International Dark Sky Reserve
- Delivery of Mannum Waterfalls open space plan
- Partnering with stakeholders to develop a strategic plan for Ngaut Ngaut Conservation Park
- Completion of PS Canally restoration project and the Mannum Murray River Heritage Tourism project
- Swan Reach Riverfront Master Plan – playground (including upgraded stormwater), riverbank reclamation, toilet upgrade (Ambulant & DDA cubicles), upgrades of picnic sets and shared pathways
- Murraylands Road - sealing from Morgan sealed end towards Blanchetown

The 2022-2023 Annual Business Plan and Budget and its proposed rate increase balances the economic challenges forecast for the Australian economy, our own community's financial situation and Council's need to continue to deliver responsible and sustainable financial management. Council will provide hardship support measures including rate capping and payment plans to assist ratepayers in need.

As the Mid Murray looks toward a positive future in the year ahead, Council looks forward to continuing to collaborate with our community to deliver valuable and exciting projects that enhance the enviable lifestyle our district enjoys.



D. Burgess

Dave Burgess
Mayor

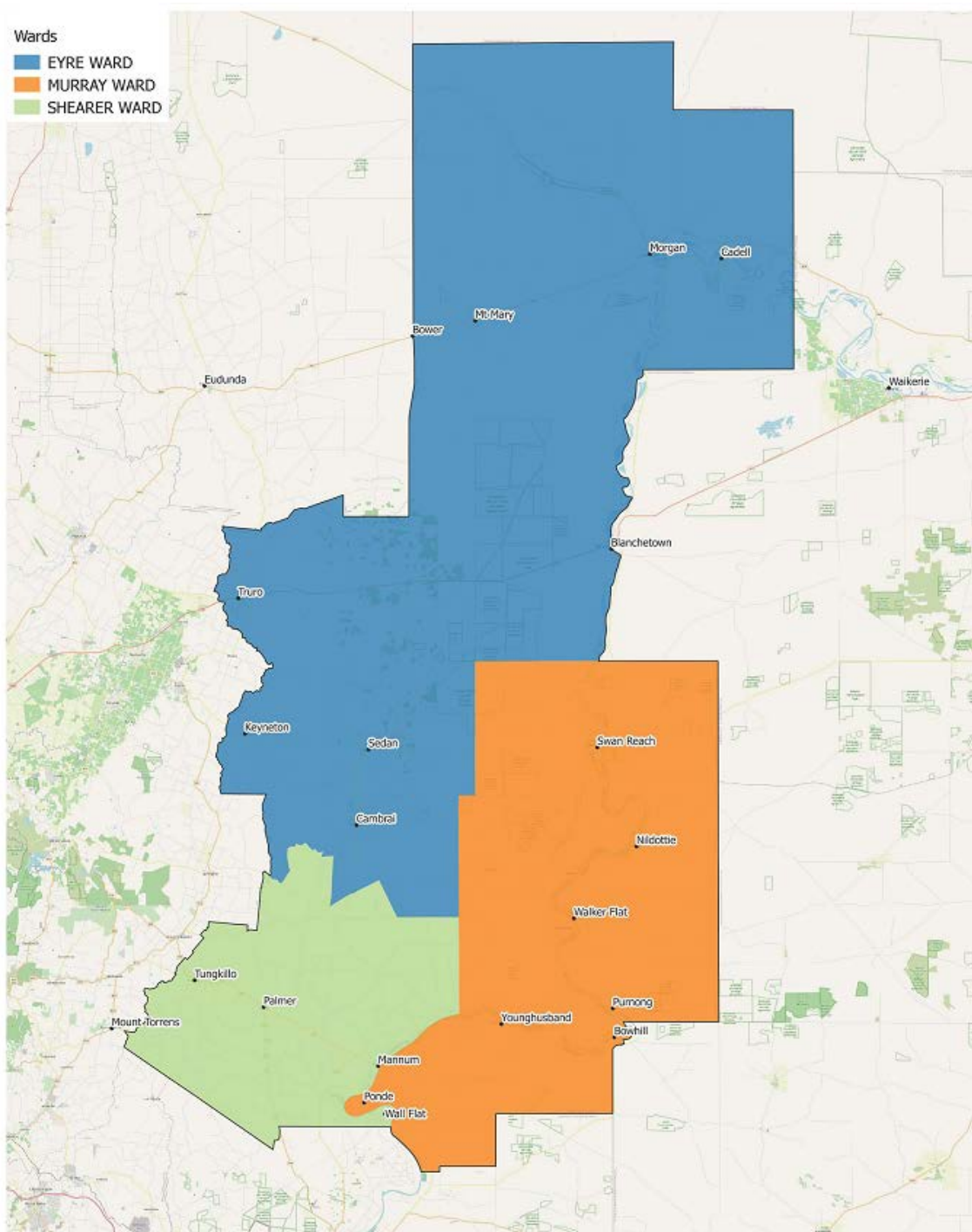


BS

Ben Scales
Chief Executive Officer

Your Council

The Mid Murray Council area comprises land within regions generally known as the Murraylands, Riverland and the eastern slopes of the Mount Lofty Ranges. The major topographical feature of the area being the valley of the River Murray with some 220 kms of this picturesque waterway passing through the district.



Elected Members

Collectively, Elected Members are responsible for policymaking and decisions that impact on current and future plans for the district, and the lives and livelihoods of individuals, organisations and businesses within it.

The role of the Elected Members is to:

- Participate in the deliberations and civic activities of the Council
- Formulate the Council's objectives and policies under review to ensure they are appropriate and effective
- Keep Council's resource allocation, expenditure and activities, and the efficiency and effectiveness of its service delivery, under review
- Represent the interests of residents and ratepayers, to provide community leadership and guidance, and to facilitate communication between the community and the Council.

Mid Murray Council has three wards, Eyre, Shearer and Murray which are represented by ten elected members.

The Council is made up of the Mayor, and nine Ward Councillors, being for the term 2018 - 2022:

Mayor Dave Burgess

Shearer Ward

- Cr Simone Bailey - Deputy Mayor
- Cr Kirsty MacGregor
- Cr Peter Raison
- Cr Peter Smith OAM

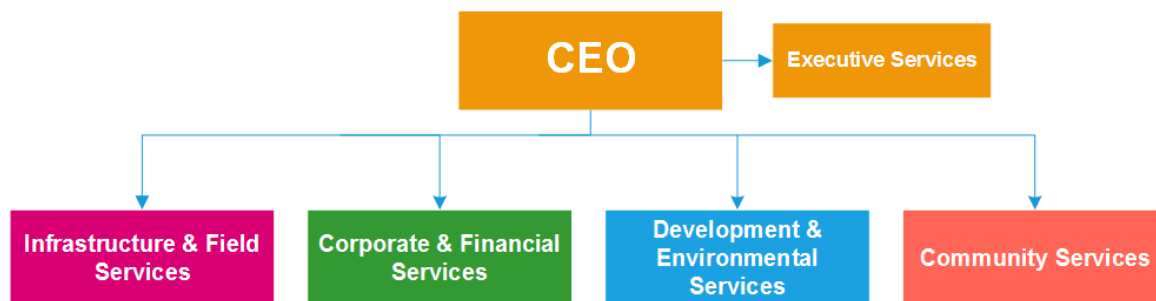
Murray Ward

- Cr Jeff Hall
- Cr Steve Hennessey

Eyre Ward

- Cr John Forrester
- Cr Kevin Myers
- Cr Deb Brokenshire

Organisational Structure



Our Plan 2020 - 2024

During 2020-2021, Council developed a new Strategic Plan – Our Plan 2020-2024.

Our Plan 2020-2024 builds on the foundations of the 2016-2020 Community Plan that was developed in partnership with the community by Council in 2016.

The community played a key component in the development of Our Plan 2020-2024 and a thorough community consultation process was undertaken to inform the direction of the plan.

Our Plan 2020-2024 sets the direction for the business for the next four years, and covers the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2024, and shapes the future of Council's operations.

Each Theme of Our Plan 2020-2024 has identified Strategic Goals, as well as Key Activities and Measures to drive and deliver clear outcomes and accountability.

Yearly operational plans will be developed for each 12-month period to guide operational deliverables.

Our Plan 2020-2024 is the key instrument for the delivery of programs and services to the community and the long-term financial sustainability of Council and guides the development of Council's Annual Business Plan and Budget and Long Term Financial Plan.

Our Purpose:

Work collaboratively to strengthen and enrich
our Community.

Our Ambition:

Prosperity, Liveability, Sustainability

Our Themes:



Council Services

All Councils have responsibilities under the *Local Government Act 1999* and other relevant legislation. These include:

- Regulatory activities e.g. maintaining the voters roll and supporting the elected Council;
- Setting rates, preparing an annual budget and determining longer-term strategic management plans for the area;
- Management of infrastructure including roads, marine facilities, footpaths, parks, sporting facilities, public open space, street lighting and storm-water drainage;
- Waste management and recycling;
- Development planning and control, including building safety assessment and unlawful development;
- General inspectorial activities including animal control, fire prevention, local nuisance and parking;
- Various environmental health services

In response to community needs, Council also provides further services and progress including:

- Community health and wellbeing.
- Economic development;
- Community Wastewater Management Systems (CWMS);
- Tourism and community events;
- Environmental programs;
- Community programs;
- Community, fitness and activity centres;
- Libraries;

In all services the Council seeks to be responsive to changing needs. Community surveys are undertaken to ascertain community levels of satisfaction to services provided and areas for improvement.

Council also operates a number of facilities on a fee for service basis which provide important community benefits while also generating revenue for services and projects to benefit the Mid Murray Community:

- Waste Management facilities and services;
- Recreation facilities including swimming pools, Mannum Leisure Centre, Mannum Dock Museum, Morgan Activity Centre and Morgan Landseer Museum.



Reflecting on 2021 - 2022

Highlights of the actions and objectives achieved by Council across 2021-2022 include:

Long-term community planning initiatives and projects implemented across the community including the Mid Murray Our Town Mental Health Plan, upgrades to the Mannum Institute, commencement of the second stage of the Murray Coorong Trail from Swan Reach to Nildottie, detailed design for remaining sections of the Murray Coorong Trail and Asset Replacement (as per Council's Asset Management Plans).

The development of Council's Reconciliation Action Plan, which is an important first step on our journey towards reconciliation with, and greater acknowledgment of, the Traditional Custodians of the lands within the Mid Murray district.

Rates review which resulted in the introduction of a two tier rating system and the Residential Rate in the Dollar (RID) set at the Base of 100% allowing all properties to have the same rate (excluding Primary Production land, which is set at 90% compared to the Base RID).

The introduction of a separate Waste Collection Service Fee, to ensure that only ratepayers that receive the service actually pay for the waste collection service.

Capital works program

Major projects completed as part the Capital works program included:

Roads

Resealing of roads throughout the region occurred over the past 12 months, including East Front Road, Anzac Avenue, Swan Reach, township roads in Blanchetown and Truro Road rehabilitation.

Footpaths

Consolidated works programmed and linked with external funding to provide efficiencies in delivery. Footpath construction was undertaken in Morgan, Blanchetown, Keyneton, Truro, Cambrai and Mannum.

Signage

Ongoing maintenance with a focus on regulatory signage.

Parks & Gardens

Service schedules implemented for town maintenance across the Council district.

Waste Management Collection

Implementation of a Waste Service charge in accordance with section 155 of the Act and commencement of the actions from the Waste Services Review.

Marine Facilities

Assessment of boat ramp facilities to classify ramps in line with the strategic direction – South Australian Boating Facilities Strategic Plan.



Reflecting on 2021 - 2022

Council also undertook projects that supported open space and recreation planning, building improvements, community wellbeing and economic development as follows:

Drought Funding for the following separate projects across the Council Area:

- Completion of Truro public toilets
- Footpath rejuvenation/replacement for townships
- Standpipe renewal
- Infrastructure for Dark Sky – Telescope Pads and Signage
- Zadows Landing beautification

Murray Darling Basin Economic Development Program Funding for the following separate projects across the Council area:

- PS Canally, commencement of Mannum Dock Wharf project and planning of the Blanchetown Revitalisation project.
- Murray Coorong Trail Detailed Design project
- Capital works program

Local Government Infrastructure Partnership Program Funding for the following separate projects across the Council area:

- Planning and design of Murraylands Road from Morgan to Blanchetown

Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Funding for the following separate projects across the Council are:

- Phase 1 – Footpaths, planning and design of stormwater projects in Morgan, Tungkillio & Palmer and Mannum Institute works
- Phase 2 – Planning and design of Ramm Road, Mannum stormwater project and Planning & design for Len White Reserve toilet replacement.

Community Wastewater Management Scheme (CWMS)

The construction of the Cowirra CWMS system is now complete. Feasibility studies for CWMS installations for the townships of Blanchetown, Morgan, Swan Reach and Tungkillio.

Open Space, Recreation & Public Realm Plan

Implementation of the Len White Reserve upgrade with riverbank reclamation, playground replacement and linkage to Victoria Street.

Planning and consultation for the Blanchetown revitalization project.

Reflecting on 2021 - 2022

Corellas

Corella control at Swan Reach and Bowhill. Participation in Regional Growth Fund Application to explore alternate control methods.

Mid Murray Our Town

Mid Murray Our Town community led initiative secured a further \$50,000 from the Department of Human services and \$100,000 from Wellbeing SA. This funding provided the opportunity to continue delivering the Our Town plan and create sustainable community led change.

E-Newsletter

The continuance of an E-Newsletters titled Mid Murray on the Move to promote and share economic, tourism and development news that is occurring throughout the region.

International Dark Sky Reserve

The River Murray International Dark Sky Reserve Committee has been formed and an Astro Tourism Strategy has been developed for implementation.

Public Consultaion

Consultation conducted internally across our organisation and externally with the Mid Murray community, including our Traditional Custodians, to assist with identifying focus areas that will underpin our Reconciliation Action Plan..

Council Plans

Council's Reconciliation Action Plan has been endorsed for implementation.

Planning, Development & Infrastructure Act (PDI ACT)

Continued transition to the ePlanning portal and Planning and Design Code under the PDI Act with the highest number of Development Applications in over 10 years, with 650 being received during 2021.

Council & Community Buildings

Maintenance undertaken in excess of \$100,000 spread across the Council area including electrical upgrades to Mid Murray Support Services/Mannum Men's Shed, replacement of air conditioning units at Morgan Medical Centre, Morgan Depot and Swan Reach Museum, electrical and door lock upgrades at various buildings.

Events

Although COVID-19 impacted a number of events, Council still assisted with a range of events including New Year's Eve Fireworks, Australia Day celebrations, Mannum Fun Run and Walk, NAIDOC Celebrations, numerous community events and Sounds by the River.

Summary of Budget movements in 2021-2022

Council is projecting a year-end operating deficit position of \$77,000, which is less than its adopted budget by \$3,910,000. The majority of this improvement is due to receiving \$3.2 million (approximately 75%) of the 2022/23 Financial Assistance Grants (FAGS) in advance during April 2022. This is the fourth consecutive year that the Federal Government have paid an advance of future year's allocation of grant monies.

Council revised budgeted cash flow has \$2,238,000 of income specifically for new and upgraded assets, this is an increase of \$150,000 on the original budget. We have received some unplanned grants this year which will flow into 2022/23 year as well.

Loan borrowing for 2021-2022 is projected to be \$11.508 million, a decrease of \$6.981 million on the adopted budget. This is mainly attributed to receiving 2022/23 Financial Assistance Grants (FAGS) in advance, grant funding received, slower than anticipated capital works program (Murraylands Road construction to be deferred to 2022/23), lower interest costs, savings on wages, reduced events, reduced utilities costs and lower contractor costs. We expect some of these savings, notably telephone costs, to provide ongoing savings in future years. There were off setting unfavourable increases of parts, tools & accessories, bitumen costs and election costs.



Looking Forward to 2022-2023



Significant influences & priorities

A number of significant factors have influenced the preparation of Council's 2022-23 Draft Annual Business Plan and Budget.

These include the following:

- An operating deficit budget, reducing to be in a surplus position within seven years (2029/30)
- The Local Government Price Index 4.5% (March 2022)
- The Adelaide Consumer Price Index 4.7% (March 2022)
- Federal Government Budget projection of 3.0% CPI to June 2023 (April 2022)
- Sustainability requirement – additional 2% of General Rates
- Additional 1% to cover higher than expected CPI in 2021/22 year
- New assessments and capital improvements/development factor 1.16%
- A provision for labour costs to increase by an estimated 4.7%, being linked to the annual March CPI.
- No budget amount has been included for advance grant payments in future years

Whilst preparing the 2022-2023 Annual Business Plan and Budget, Council has been mindful of the community's ability to pay and balanced this against Council's strategic direction and its social and economic objectives. The historical indexes that have been quoted reflect the impact of COVID and the world economic disturbance related to Ukraine, but with budget considerations we are looking at the forward 2022/23 financial year.

The average rate increase is proposed to be 6.0% for existing assessments, but the actual increase payable for any individual property may be more or less than this depending on the value and movement in the capital value of each property and any possible change of land use. Additional rates income will also be raised due to the creation of new assessments and new/additional building development. Capping rebates of 15% will be available to a certain criteria of properties to reduce the impact over three years. Properties that have recently had additional development improvements will have appropriate rates levied based on the New Year's valuation.

The budget has been prepared on the assumption that there will not be an advance payment made in May/June 2023 of any portion of the 2023/24 Financial Assistance Grant monies.

The Roads to Recovery program has been extended for another year with the grant amount being \$663,650, the same as 2021/22 but down from \$995,000 in 2020/21.

Looking Forward to 2022-2023

Consultation

Council released its annual budget for Public Consultation for a period of 21 days from 12 May 2022 to 2 June 2022. The following changes have been made from the consultation budget to the proposed budget for adoption.

1. Increase \$36,000 in IT General Minor Equipment <\$3k Expenses – Budget entered as \$4,000 but should have been \$40,000.
2. Reduction \$65,104 in IT Support Internal Expenses – moved to IT Capital Internal Office Equipment Renewal.
3. Decrease \$6,730 in Disposal Facility Cambrai EPA Levy – advice of actual received from EPA.
4. Increase \$34,353 in wage expenses, wage increase for ASU staff to be 4.7% as per EBA – consultation increase was 4%, minor reduction in PA insurance costs.
5. Decrease \$128,162 Depreciation expenses – revised estimates in line with 2021 audited accounts.
6. Decrease \$799,000 Sealed Roads Capital Infrastructure Upgrade – defer part Murraylands Road Upgrade.
7. Increase \$106,000 Road Reserves Capital Infrastructure New – purchase of land that Council roads are on.
8. Decrease \$237,230 Sealed Roads Capital Infrastructure Renewal – Budget amounts included in budget for 2021-22 – to be carried forward at September review.
9. Increase \$65,104 IT Capital Internal Office Equipment Renewal – moved from operating expenditure.

The budgeted operating deficit has decreased by \$130,000 and capital expenditure has decreased by \$865,000 making a total net reduction in costs of \$995,000.



Projects for 2022-2023

In 2022-2023 Council will undertake major capital works to ensure the longevity of existing assets, as well as providing new assets to cope with the demands of a growing community. In addition, Council will deliver a number of projects to achieve its strategic objectives as outlined below:

Our Business

Our priority projects for 2022-23 include:

- Implementation of the One Number Customer Service System with dedicated/specialised staff.
- Implement on-ledger full cost attribution for all Financial Reporting
- Review of customer service delivery
- Implementation of outcomes from the Mannum Waters Separate Rate consultation
- Implementation of Email Cloud services
- Review and improve communication resilience at main office locations.
- Development of e-communication to ratepayers.

Our Community

Our priority projects for 2022-23 include:

- Implement Mid Murray Council's Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan
- Review of Community Services facilities to identify areas for continuous improvement
- Construction of Stage 3 of the Murray Coorong Trail
- Seek funding opportunities, in partnership with neighbouring Council's, to construct remaining sections of the Murray Coorong Trail
- Implementation of Council's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan
- Implementation of the Regional Public Health Plan priorities
- Outreach Library and Digital Literacy Programs
- Delivery of targeted health and wellbeing programs and services
- Partner with community to implement initiatives of the "Mid Murray Our Town" Mental Health Plan
- Delivery of Community Grants program
- Health and Medical Services advocacy
- Mid Murray Family Connections Collective Impact Initiative and advocacy
- Partner with Mannum Oval Complex user groups to plan, advocate and prioritise the future of the site
- Develop a Volunteer Management Program
- Provide support to committees and networks – eg the Mid Murray Suicide Prevention network, Mannum Institute Committee.



Projects for 2022-2023

Our Environment

Our priority projects for 2022-23 include:

- Progression under the Planning, *Development & Infrastructure Act 2016*
- Development of Truro Township Masterplan
- Finalisation of design and costing for Wongulla CWMS
- Finalisation of Council's Building Asset Management Plan
- Implementation of Council's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan
- Implementation of the Regional Public Health Plan
- Implementation of Animal Management Plan 2020-2025
- Development of Mid Murray Council Growth Strategy
- Development of Mid Murray Council Environmental Management Plan
- Mannum Institute Stage 2 progression of design and costings for retaining wall and stormwater
- Revision of Roadside Vegetation Management Plan

Our Growth

Our priority projects for 2022-23 include:

- Our priority projects for 2022-23 include:
- Development of Economic Development strategy
- Regional infrastructure advocacy, including the delivery of the Truro bypass
- Complete a land supply and housing option audit
- Continued streamlining development processes through the ePlanning portal
- Partnering with RDA to undertake a skills audit of business capability in the region
- Reviewing and updating Tourism strategy for the region
- Implementation of the Astro Tourism strategy for the River Murray International Dark Sky Reserve
- Delivery of Mannum waterfalls open space plan
- Partnering with stakeholders on the development of a Strategic plan for Ngaut Ngaut
- Completion of PS Canally restoration project and the Mannum Murray River Heritage Tourism project

Our Lifestyle

Our priority projects for 2022-23 include:

- Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association Regional Transport Strategy
- Marine Facilities Asset Management Plan
- Implementation of Town Plans - reseals and associated works
- Swan Reach Riverfront Master Plan – delivery of adopted master plan
- Delivery of Our Lifestyle Murray Darling Basin Economic Development Program funding projects
- Resheeting of unsealed roads throughout Council area in accordance with Council's Transport Asset Management Plan
- Murraylands Road – Design and commencement of seal from the Morgan sealed end towards Blanchetown (approx. 8kms)

South Australian Strategic Plan

The State Government released the Premier and Cabinet's Strategic Plan 2019-2022 with five Strategic Goals:

- Lead whole of government policy, major initiatives and projects that deliver outcomes in line with the Premier and the Cabinet's priorities
- Drive strong policy outcomes across government portfolios through accurate, timely and evidence based advice, collaboration and coordination
- Deliver programs and services within the Premier's portfolio responsibilities that support South Australian communities
- Support the Premier to lead a well administered, Cabinet-led government
- Be a high performing and effective central agency

Council will pursue synergies with the South Australian Strategic Plan and other relevant regional and national initiatives in its priorities for 2022-2023 including:

- Continued implementation of the Infrastructure Asset & Management Plan;
- Ensuring financial sustainability in accordance with the 10 Year Long Term Financial Plan;
- Continued revision of the Mid Murray Council Development Plan thereby supporting demand for new housing; and
- Striving for continuous improvement within Council and service excellence in line with Council's values



Funding the Annual Business Plan

Financial Indicators

Council's Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) is financially sustainable over the ten years of the plan.

Key Financial Indicators

Key financial sustainability performance targets ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the Council covering the maintenance and development of the community's assets as well as providing appropriate services.

The current economic impacts mean that it is unrealistic for Council to operate in surplus in the near future due to the financial hardship it would cause to our community. We are therefore setting realistic targets to improve our financial position over the next 10 years while ensuring our community still grows and develops in a responsible way.

Council's operating deficit before capital revenues for 2022-2023 is \$5.334 million or (24.6%). The advance Financial Assistance Grants received in April 2022 impacted the forecast result by increasing the deficit by \$3.2 million. Without the payment being received in advance the Council would have budgeted for a deficit of \$2.112 million or (8.5%) in 2022-2023. Council is committed to the sustainable management of community funds, with the Operating Ratio in the long term returning to a surplus.

Demonstrating that Council has the ability to reduce its net financial liabilities and fund capital expenditure over and above depreciation expenses. Council's Net Financial Liabilities Ratio is projected to be 90% for 2022-2023, reducing to 29% over the Long Term Financial Plan.

The Asset Renewal Ratio is projected to be 136% in 2022-2023. The Building and Land Asset Management Plan was adopted on the 14 April 2022 by Council, it should be noted that presently there is an unfunded shortfall of approximately \$9.1m in the forward 10 years. Strategies will be investigated to reduce this shortfall, with any improvements to be incorporated into the future version of the Building and Land Asset Management Plan. In the interim, the \$9m shortfall of Capital Renewal Expenditure has been placed into the last three years of the LTFP (3 x \$3m 2029/30, 2030/31 and 2031/32) in recognition that there is a liability, until a future version of the plan is produced. Council will continue to budget and report against the forecasts contained within the Asset Management Plans.

Council will monitor the implementation of the draft 2022-2023 budget via regular budget updates and reviews in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1999* and *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*.

KEY FINANCIAL INDICATORS	2021 Audited Accounts	2022 Adopted Budget	2022 Current Budget	2023 Budget
Operating Surplus - \$'000	(487)	(4,021)	(81)	(5,675)
Operating Surplus - \$'000 (Adj)	(538)	(2,021)	(1,662)	(2,453)
Operating Surplus Ratio - %	(2.1)%	(18)%	(0.3)%	(26.4)%
Operating Surplus Ratio - % (Adj)	(2.3)%	(8)%	(5)%	(10)%
Net Financial Liabilities Ratio - %	48.0%	95.0%	53.5%	99.2%
Asset Renewal Funding Ratio - %	120%	111%	188%	140%

2021 Year End Actual - Council's audited financial results as at 30 June 2021

2022 Adopted Budget - Budget for 2021-22 adopted by Council July 2021

2022 Current Budget - Council's revised budget, projecting its financial position to 30 June 2022

2023 Proposed Budget - Budget 2022-23

Summary Statement

Council plans to finance the net borrowing result by utilising its Cash Advance Debenture facility over the life of the Long Term Financial Plan. This will enable Council to repay principal immediately when surplus funds are achieved in future years.



Rates Revenue in 2022-2023

Comparing rates between Councils is difficult. Every Council has different attributes and provides varying services or similar services at different standards. Councils deliver an extensive range and level of service to the community with the greater part determined by the expectations of our communities. The price of delivering and providing these services is spread across the community in the form of rates. Council determines a rate in the dollar, based on the amount of revenue that will be required to meet the ongoing cost of providing services to our community for the coming year.

At the Council meeting held on 11 May 2021, Council moved to amend the rate differentials. This moved the Council from raising rates on a complex combination of land use and location, to only two differential rates and the introduction of the waste management service charge. The rating review in 2021 highlighted the change of minimum rates over two years increasing from \$731 in 2020/21 to \$787 in 2021/22 and then to a proposed \$860 in 2022/23. The phasing in of the increase to minimum rates over two years will ensure that in each year the increase for minimum general rates will be kept below 10% annually. The actual minimum rate for 2022/23 has been set at \$860.

Council's Rate Capping Rebate will have the following aspects for the 2022/23:

- Include Waste Management Charge in the calculation; and
- Change capping to 15% by application, being only available to ratepayers living on or at their property as their principal place of residence. Primary Production ratepayers are not eligible due to the having a differential rate that is 10% less than all other land use categories

Dollar values have been adjusted down appropriately for General rates, with an average annual increase of 6.0% for existing properties. Additional rates income will also be raised due to the creation of new assessments and new/additional building development.



Rates Disclosure

Rates Disclosure				
Expected Rates Revenue				
	2021/22 (as adopted)	2022/23 (as adopted)	Change	Comments
General Rates Revenue				
General Rates (existing properties)		\$14,789,000 (a)		For 2022/23, General Rates increase of 6.0% plus estimated growth (refer n) of 0.4 % from new properties that have been created over the last year and 0.8% from new/additional development.
General Rates (new properties)		\$26,000 (b)		
General Rates (GROSS)	\$13,824,000	\$14,815,000 (c)		
Less: Mandatory Rebates	(\$92,000)	(\$91,900) (d)		
General Rates (NET)	\$13,732,000	\$14,723,100 (e)	7.2%	
		(e)=(c)+(d)		
Other Rates (inc. service charges)				
Regional Landscape Levy	\$561,000	\$571,000 (f)		The Regional Landscape Levy is not retained by council.
Waste collection & Recycling	\$1,378,000	\$1,510,600 (g)		One and Two bin collection service
Water supply	\$38,000	\$39,200 (h)		Bowhill Water Supply
CWMS	\$635,000	\$640,500 (i)		As per CWMS schedule
Separate and Special Rates	\$0	\$96,600 (j)		Mannum Waters Special Rate (1st year of 15 years)
TV Services	\$21,000	\$21,200 (k)		Bowhill TV Services
	\$16,365,000	\$17,602,200		
Less: Discretionary Rebates	(\$38,000)	(\$39,500) (l)		
Total Rates Revenue	\$15,766,000	\$16,991,700 (m)	7.8%	Excluding the Regional Landscape Levy and minus Mandatory & Discretionary Rebates.
		(m)=(e)+(g)+(h)+(i)+(j)+(k)+(l)		
Growth in number of rateable properties				
Number of rateable properties	10,530	10,574 (n)	0.4%	Growth* (as per Local Government Act 1999 Definition) is expected to account for around 0.4 per cent of the estimated increase in General Rates to be collected (refer b).
	Actual	Actual		
'Growth' is defined in the regulations as where new properties have been created which has added rateable properties to council's ratepayer base. Growth can also increase the need and expenditure related to infrastructure, services and programs which support these properties				
Average General Rates per rateable property				
Average per rateable property	\$1,312.82	\$1,401.08 (o)	6.7%	These 'averages' are based on the total Gross General Rates of all rateable properties and excluded Mandatory & Discretionary Rebates and are therefore not necessarily indicative of either the rate or change in rates that all ratepayers will experience. Being 6% for existing assessments plus 0.7% new/additional property development
		(o)=(c)/(n)		
Councils use property valuations to calculate each rateable property's contribution to the required rate revenue total. Councils do not automatically receive more money because property values increase but this may alter how rates are apportioned (or divided) across each ratepayer (ie. some people may pay more or less rates, this is dependent on the change in value of their property relative to the overall valuation changes across the council area). The total rates paid by all rateable properties will equal the amount adopted in the budget.				
Notes				
(d) Councils are required under the Local Government Act to provide a rebate to qualifying properties under a number of categories:				
Health Services - 100 per cent Religious purposes - 100 per cent Royal Zoological Society of SA - 100 per cent Community Services - 75 per cent Public Cemeteries - 100 per cent Educational purposes - 75 per cent The rates which are foregone via Mandatory Rebates are redistributed across the ratepayer base (ie. all other ratepayers are subsidising the rates contribution for those properties who receive the rebate).				
(e) Presented as required by Regulation 6(1)(ea) of the <i>Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011</i> .				
Please Note: The percentage figure in (e) relates to the change in the total amount of General Rates revenue to be collected from <u>all</u> rateable properties, not from individual rateable properties (ie. individual rates will not necessarily change by this figure).				
(f) Councils are required under the <i>Landscape South Australia Act 2019</i> to collect the levy on all rateable properties on behalf of the State Government. The Regional Landscape Levy is not retained by council .				
(i) Community Wastewater Management Systems				
(l) A council may grant a rebate of rates or service charges in a number of circumstances. The rates which are foregone via Discretionary Rebates are redistributed across the ratepayer base (ie. all other ratepayers are subsidising the rates contribution for those properties who receive the rebate).				
(n) 'Growth' as defined in Regulation 6(2) of the <i>Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011</i> .				
Please note: The "Growth" definition is calculated on the creation of new assessments. This calculation should be taken into context in that the Mid Murray Council has approximately 35% of assessments without a dwelling and therefore new assessments are not required to accommodate the building of new dwellings in comparison to a typical metropolitan Council.				

Rates Disclosure

Rates Disclosure

Differential Rates

	Total expected revenue			No. of rateable properties		Average per rateable property			Cents in the \$
	2021/22	2022/23	Change	2021/22	2022/23	2021/22	2022/23	Change	2022/23
Land Use (General Rates - GROSS)									
Residential	\$8,229,000	\$8,756,000	6%	5680	5738	\$1,449	\$1,526 (p)	\$77	0.4524
Commercial - Shop	\$88,000	\$88,500	1%	65	65	\$1,354	\$1,362 (p)	\$8	0.4524
Commercial - Office	\$11,000	\$11,500	5%	12	12	\$917	\$958 (p)	\$42	0.4524
Commercial - Other	\$262,000	\$260,000	-1%	133	134	\$1,970	\$1,940 (p)	-\$30	0.4524
Industry - Light	\$17,000	\$17,500	3%	15	15	\$1,133	\$1,167 (p)	\$33	0.4524
Industry - Other	\$85,000	\$80,000	-6%	30	30	\$2,833	\$2,667 (p)	-\$167	0.4524
Primary Production	\$3,695,000	\$4,063,500	10%	2554	2545	\$1,447	\$1,597 (p)	\$150	0.4072
Vacant Land	\$1,154,000	\$1,238,000	7%	1494	1489	\$772	\$831 (p)	\$59	0.4524
Other	\$236,000	\$253,500	7%	340	339	\$694	\$748 (p)	\$54	0.4524
Marina Berths	\$47,000	\$46,500	-1%	207	207	\$227	\$225 (p)	-\$2	0.4524
Total Land Use	\$13,824,000	\$14,815,000	7.2%	10,530	10,574	\$1,313	\$1,401 (p)	\$88	

Council uses a differential rating system, using Land Use Codes as the factor to apply such differential rates. In applying differential general rates, council has considered and is satisfied that the rating system addresses the issue of consistency and comparability across all council areas, particularly as it relates to the various sectors of the business and wider community.

Minimum Rate

	No. of properties to which rate will apply		Rate		
	2022/23	% of total rateable properties	2021/22	2022/23	Change
Minimum Rate	3,536	33.4%	\$787	\$860 (r)	\$73

The Minimum Rate provides a mechanism where lower valued properties do not pay less than a minimum amount as determined by the council. Typically, only a small number of all properties (with no more than 35%) pay a minimum amount. Council proposes to set a minimum rate of \$860 which shall be applied to all rateable properties. This will affect 34.1% of rateable properties.

Adopted valuation method

Capital Value

Council has the option of adopting one of three valuation methodologies to assess the properties in its area for rating purposes:

Capital Value – the value of the land and all improvements on the land;

Site Value – the value of the land and any improvements which predominantly affect the amenity of use of the land, such as drainage works, but excluding the value of buildings and other improvements (Note: Site Value will cease to be an option from 1 Sept 2023); or

Annual Value – a valuation of the rental potential of the property.

Council continues to use **Capital Value** as the basis for valuing land within the Council area. Council considers that this method of valuing land provides the fairest method of distributing the rate burden across all ratepayers on the following basis:

- The equity principle of taxation requires that taxpayers of greater wealth pay more tax than those of lesser wealth.
- Property value is a relatively good indicator of wealth and capital value, which closely approximates the market value of a property and provides the best indicator of overall property value.

Notes

(p) Average per rateable property calculated as General Rates for category, including any fixed charge or minimum rate (if applicable) but excluding any separate rates, divided by number of rateable properties within that category in the relevant financial year.

(r) Where two or more adjoining properties have the same owner and are occupied by the same occupier, only one minimum rate is payable by the ratepayer.

Council's revenue for 2022-2023 includes \$17.6 million from general rates and service charges.

Council has set a combined general rate increase of 6.0% from general rates raised in the 2021/22 Financial Year. This will equate to an overall average increase of around \$91 per existing assessment for the coming year. However, the actual increase payable for any individual property may be more or less than this, depending on the value and movement in the capital valuation of each property, the impact of changes in the rate in the dollar (RID) and the impact of the Waste Collection Charge. Additional rate revenue of 1.16% will be generated from new assessments and capital improvements/developments.

In setting rates for the 2022-2023 financial year, Council has considered the need to keep rate increases to a minimum, as well as the following plans and considerations:

- Our Plan 2020-2024 that sets the overall direction of Council for the next four years
- the Mid Murray Council Long Term Financial Plan that sets the overall income receipts and expenditure outlays that are expected into the future and in particular, the recurrent expenditure and income expected for the 2022-2023 financial year
- the Mid Murray Council Asset Management Plans that sets the capital works, maintenance and renewal programmes and the impact on future generations
- the resources required for the delivery of Council services as documented in the 2022-2023 Annual Business Plan and Budget which also outlines financial and non-financial performance levels
- equity issues and the relationship between the various land uses and the previous rating structure
- extremes in valuations and how their impact can be minimised in setting rating levels

Rates Revenue

Rates revenue is used to provide a range of services such as road rehabilitation, footpath repairs and maintenance, storm water drainage, ongoing maintenance of parks, gardens and buildings, street lighting and street cleaning, libraries, animal control, planning and enforcement of local laws. Whilst a Waste Collection Charge will still fall under rate revenue, a separate charge will be raised for the collection of waste, amounts collected under this charge can only be raised at the estimated costs associated with the waste collection and disposal.

Method Used to Value Land

The Council has decided to continue to use Capital Valuation as the basis for valuing land within the Council area. The Council considers that this method of valuing land provides the fairest method of distributing the rate burden across all ratepayers.

Business Impact Statement

In setting its rates annually, the Council will consider the following:

- Council's Strategic Plan, *Our Plan 2020-2024*;
- Council's Long Term Financial Plan and Council's Asset Management Plans;
- The recurrent and project expenditure and income resources required for the delivery of Council services which are documented in the Annual Business Plan and Budget over the next 12 months;
- The operating and capital projects and new programs for the coming year;
- The impact of rate changes on all ratepayers in the Council area;
- Extreme changes in valuation and how their effect can be minimised in setting rating levels;
- Council's recent development approval trends and growth expected for the Council area;
- Increased use of separate rates, service rates and service charges, recovering the cost of activities that benefit the land, or the occupiers of the land, or the visitors to a particular area; and
- Current local, state and national economic conditions and expected changes during the next financial year.

Differential General Rates

The Local Government Act provides for a Council to raise rate revenue through a general rate which applies to all rateable properties, or through differential general rates, which apply to classes of properties.

Council has elected to apply differential general rates for the following classes of properties:

- Residential, Commercial Shop, Commercial Office, Commercial Other, Industry Light, Industry Other, Vacant, Other & Marina (RID) at the Base of 100%
- Primary Production 90% compared to Base RID.

Council moved to a two tier rating system in 2021/22. The Residential Rate in the Dollar (RID) has been set at the Base of 100% (0.4524 cents in the dollar) and all other properties will have the same rate except for Primary Production land, which will be at 90% (0.4072 cents in the dollar) compared to the Base RID. The rural sector not only contributes to our economy but also has significant responsibilities in environmental conservation. This sector does not enjoy Government financial support except in exceptional circumstances; however its contributions have been recognised by Local Government which has historically provided a reduction to the general rate.

Council has regard to relative movements in valuation to ensure that the rate burden remains relatively constant between the classes of properties.

Minimum Rate

A Council may impose a minimum amount payable by way of rates, where two or more adjoining properties have the same owner and are occupied by the same occupier, only one minimum rate is payable by the ratepayer. Where a Council imposes a minimum rate, it must not apply to more than 35% of properties in the Council area, for 2022-2023 Council has set a minimum rate of \$860 (previously \$787).

Rate Capping

Council's rate cap will be increased to 15% to provide greater relief for ratepayers affected by the rating process changes by including the Waste Management Charge into the calculation for capping. Ratepayers must apply for the cap, be living on their property as the principal place of residence and primary production ratepayers are not eligible due to having a differential rate that is 10% less than all other land use categories.

A full version of Council's Rating Policy can be viewed at www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au

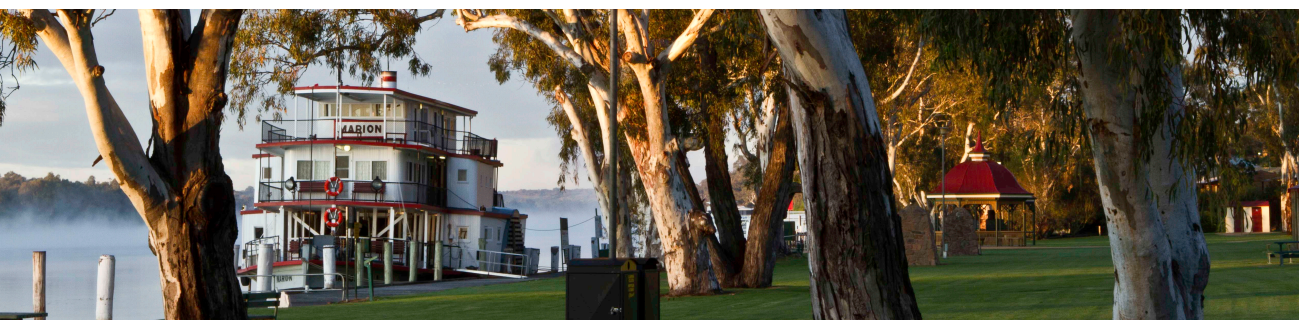
Rate Rebate

A rebate of rates in respect of any rateable land in the Council area will be available in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1999* and Council's Rating Policy. The Policy provides eligibility guidance upon which a ratepayer is entitled to a rebate of rates.

A full version of Council's Rating Policy can be viewed at www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au

Regional Landscape Levy (previously the Natural Resources Management Levy)

The Regional Landscape Levy is a State Government tax imposed under the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*. Council is obliged to collect the levy on behalf of the State Government for no net gain to Council. Council collects the levy on behalf of the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board. The levy is based on the capital valuation of land and is shown as a separate charge on the rates notice. For budget purposes it is proposed to increase the levy from \$560,716 in 2021-2022 to in 2021-2022 to \$566,355 in 2022-2023, an increase of 1.0%.



Community Wastewater Management Schemes (CWMS)

The Council manages CWMS for various areas within the Council which provides benefits to those connected to the schemes. A service charge is raised to maintain the systems. The revenue raised from this charge can only be applied to maintenance, renewal and upgrades of the scheme and only those properties that have the ability to access the service will be levied.

The Mid Murray Community Wastewater Management System Advisory Committee for 2022-2023 has continued the method of setting the annual CWMS charge based on the balance of accumulated funds (surplus/deficit) of each scheme along with the projected annual expenditure. This will mean some material changes (plus/minus 25%) in the annual charge for 2022-2023 will occur, due to various schemes either under or over contributing in past years compared to their historical actual costs. This adjustment of the service charge will continue to be calculated over the past five year average of costs and each individual CWMS scheme fund balance, although the majority of adjustments in the coming years are expected to be at a lower quantum. The Truro and Cowirra Schemes fees will be based on the operating cost of the schemes (including depreciation), noting that the increase of fees of the Cowirra scheme will be capped at twice the forecasted CPI.

Scheme	2021-22 Service Charge (LY)	2022-23 Service Charge	Fund Balance 30/06/2021 Surplus/(Deficit)
Big Bend	\$554	\$557	\$21,328
Blanchetown	\$322	\$267	\$214,718
Bolto	\$368	\$401	\$50,816
Bowhill	\$323	\$289	\$156,115
Brenda Park/Morphett Flat	\$241	\$285	\$84,310
Caloote Landing Area	\$371	\$363	\$26,759
Caurnamount	\$347	\$347	\$65,594
Cowirra	\$550	\$580	N/A
Cowirra (Capital Only 2 of 10 years)	\$461	\$461	N/A
Five Mile/Kia Marina	\$1,032	\$1,264	(\$47,502)
Greenways Landing	\$917	\$922	(\$107)
Idyll Acres	\$476	\$425	\$73,939
Julanker/Younghusband	\$704	\$719	(\$15,734)
Kroehns Landing	\$1,115	\$1,139	(\$4,193)
Mark's Landing	\$315	\$298	\$49,015
North Punvelroo	\$205	\$207	\$11,330
North West Bend/ Beaumonts	\$225	\$176	\$109,449
Old Teal Flat	\$438	\$356	\$24,621
Pelican Point	\$289	\$275	\$68,946
Pellaring Flat	\$395	\$457	(\$1,444)
Rob Loxton Road/Walker Flat	\$198	\$175	\$197,746
Scott's Creek	\$376	\$338	\$97,256
Scrubby Flat Area	\$744	\$560	\$18,564
Seven Mile	\$801	\$663	\$13,191
South Punvelroo	\$321	\$310	\$80,036
Swan Reach	\$473	\$433	\$38,182
Teal Flat	\$383	\$339	\$82,213
The Rocks	\$950	\$976	\$50
Truro	\$599	\$629	N/A
Truro Aerobic WWT Plant 50%	\$305	\$314	N/A
Truro Private Pumping Chamber	\$579	\$609	N/A

Rates Revenue

Community Wastewater Management Schemes (CWMS)

Where a reference to “unit” is in accordance the Property Units Code as permitted by Regulation 12 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2013..

Service Charges

Service charges are levied on the concept of user pays based on the cost to operate and maintain the service, and the cost to improve or replace the service, and recognition that the value of a property is enhanced by the availability of the service.

Bowhill Multi Access Television Transmission Service & Reticulated Water Supply System

Council also manages the Bowhill Multi Access Television System and Water Supply. As per the Council Rating Policy, the service charge for 2022-2023 will be reviewed to ensure recovery of cost

Bowhill Multi Access Television System \$146 per property serviced (previously \$142) Bowhill Water Supply System \$256 per property serviced (previously \$249)

The water supply system includes the consumption of up to 120 kilolitres of water plus an excess water charge of 75 cents per kilolitre for water consumed in excess of 120 kilolitres during the 12 month period.

General Waste & Kerbside Collection of Recyclables (2 Bin System)

A separate charge of \$286 per property (previously \$276) to which the service is made available has been set to be levied in order to cover the costs in supplying the combined service.

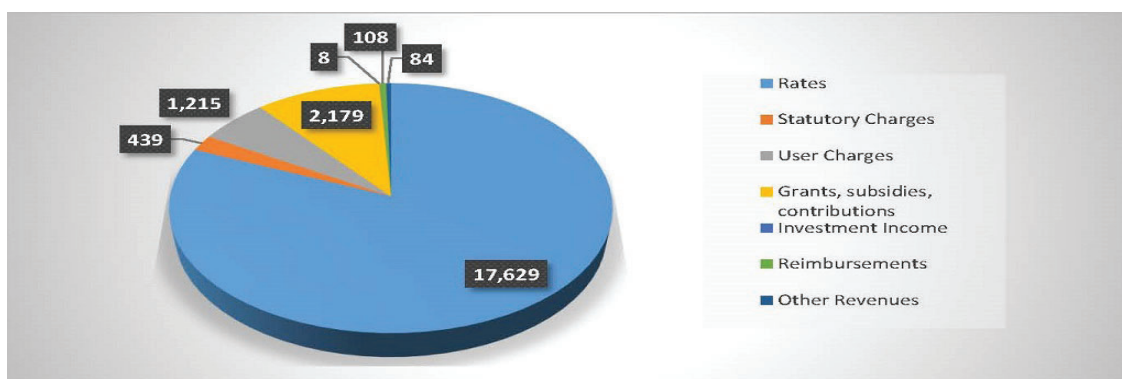
General Waste Management Charge (1 Bin System)

A Waste Management Charge of \$200 per property (previously \$190) will be charged to cover the costs of providing the service.

Separate Rates - Mannum Waters

Section 154 of the Local Government Act 1999 enables Council to declare a Separate Rate on rateable land. Council is required under the Landscape South Australia Act 2019 to cover the evaporation loss of 187ML within the Mannum Waters Marina. Council determined to raise a Separate Rate for Mannum Waters to recover the \$1.534m cost (plus finance costs) to purchase the required 187ML permanent water entitlement over a period of 15 years. In recognition of the current and future open space areas in Mannum Waters that are accessed by the general public to use and enjoy, Council has increased its contribution towards the costs from the 8.9% as outlined in the Mannum Waters Separate Rates Consultation Paper to 21% (from \$122,000 to \$328,000 plus financing costs).

Other Sources of Revenue \$(000)




Rates Revenue

Concessions

State Government Concessions - These concessions were formerly available to the holders of pensioner concession cards, veterans, low-income earners, unemployed, students, and self-funded retirees. These concessions were all abolished by the State Government with effect from 30 June 2015.

From 1 July 2015, the State Government has elected to replace these concessions with a single “cost-of-living payment” provided directly to those entitled. This payment may be used for any purpose, including off setting Council rates. Note that not all former recipients of rates concessions will be entitled to the new payment. To check eligibility, contact the Department for Communities and Social Inclusion (DCSI) Concessions Hotline 1800 307 758 or at www.sa.gov.au/concessions. From 1 July 2017, DCSI has been administering Community Wastewater Management Scheme (CWMS) and water concessions.



A scenic photograph of a river with large trees and their reflections in the water. The image is used as a background for the financial statements.

Appendix A Financial Statements 2022-2023

Financial Statements 2022-2023

Budget Statement of Comprehensive Income

Mid Murray Council Budgeted Financial Statements 2022-23 Budget Statement of Comprehensive Income

Year ended 30 June:	2021 Audited Accounts \$('000)	2022 Adopted Budget \$('000)	2022 Current Budget \$('000)	2023 Proposed Budget \$('000)
INCOME				
Rates	15,693	16,330	16,549	17,629
Statutory Charges	439	362	453	439
User Charges	1,372	1,173	1,092	1,215
Grants, subsidies, contributions	5,603	3,788	7,049	2,179
Investment Income	3	1		
Reimbursements	221	196	216	108
Other Revenues	236	86	97	84
Total Revenues	23,567	21,936	25,460	21,663
EXPENSES				
Employee costs	8,012	8,611	8,389	9,543
Materials, contracts & other expenses	8,664	9,871	9,860	9,648
Depreciation	7,139	7,074	7,073	7,140
Finance Costs	239	401	215	666
Total Expenses	24,054	25,957	25,537	26,997
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) BEFORE CAPITAL AMOUNTS	(487)	(4,021)	(77)	(5,334)
Asset Disposal & Fair Value Adjustments	(127)	0	0	0
Amounts specifically for new assets	2,830	2,689	2,735	3,856
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	2,216	(1,332)	2,658	(1,478)
Other Comprehensive Income	0	0		
Total Other Comprehensive Income	0	0		
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	2,216	(1,332)	2,658	(1,478)

Budget Financial Position (Balance Sheet)

Mid Murray Council
Budgeted Financial Statements 2022-23
Budget Financial Position (Balance Sheet)

Year ended 30 June:	2021 Audited Accounts \$('000)	2022 Adopted Budget \$('000)	2022 Current Budget \$('000)	2023 Proposed Budget \$('000)
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Cash & Equivalent Assets	1,320	150	150	150
Trade & Other Receivables	2,810	2,747	3,033	2,991
Inventories	405	360	364	358
Total Current Assets	4,535	3,257	3,547	3,499
Non-Current Assets				
Other Financial Assets	55	60	195	179
Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	186,840	194,586	191,815	196,224
Total Non-Current Assets	186,895	194,646	192,010	196,403
Total Assets	191,430	197,903	195,557	199,902
LIABILITIES				
Current Liabilities				
Trade & Other Payables	3,323	2,365	2,894	2,139
Borrowings	735	505	642	539
Provisions	1,842	1,946	1,875	1,875
Total Current Liabilities	5,900	4,816	5,411	4,553
Non-Current Liabilities				
Borrowings CAD	7,340	16,951	8,357	15,577
Trade & Other Payables			3	3
Borrowings	1,538	1,033	2,509	1,970
Provisions	752	906	719	719
Total Non-Current Liabilities	9,630	18,890	11,588	18,269
Total Liabilities	15,530	23,706	16,999	22,822
NET ASSETS	175,900	174,197	178,558	177,080
EQUITY				
Accumulated Surplus	20945	19,299	23,603	22,125
Asset Revaluation Reserve	153667	153,667	153,667	153,667
Other Reserves	1288	1,231	1,288	1,288
TOTAL EQUITY	175,900	174,197	178,558	177,080

Budget Statement of Changes in Equity

Mid Murray Council
Budgeted Financial Statements 2022-23
Budget Statement of Changes in Equity

Year ended 30 June:	2021 Audited Accounts \$('000)	2022 Adopted Budget \$('000)	2022 Current Budget \$('000)	2023 Proposed Budget \$('000)
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS				
Balance at end of previous reporting period	18,786	20,631	20,945	23,603
Net Result for Year	2,216	(1,332)	2,658	(1,478)
Other Comprehensive Income	0	0		
Transfers to Other Reserves		0	0	0
Transfers from Other Reserves	(57)	0	0	0
Balance at end of period	20,945	19,299	23,603	22,125
ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE				
Property, Plant & Equipment	153,667	153,667	153,667	153,667
Balance at end of period	153,667	153,667	153,667	153,667
OTHER RESERVES				
Balance at end of previous reporting period	1,231	1,231	1,288	1,288
Transfers from Accumulated Surplus	57	0	0	0
Transfers to Accumulated Surplus	0	0		
Balance at end of period	1,288	1,231	1,288	1,288
TOTAL EQUITY AT END OF REPORTING PERIOD	175,900	174,197	178,558	177,080

Budget Cash Flow Statement

Mid Murray Council
Budgeted Financial Statements 2022-23
Budget Cash Flow Statement

Year ended 30 June:	2021 Audited Accounts \$('000)	2022 Adopted Budget \$('000)	2022 Current Budget \$('000)	2023 Proposed Budget \$('000)
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
<u>Receipts</u>				
Operating Receipts	26,314	22,613	24,414	21,688
Investment Receipts	3	1		
<u>Payments</u>				
Operating Payments to Suppliers & Employees	(19,680)	(18,286)	(17,334)	(19,170)
Finance Payments	(322)	(463)	(198)	(683)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities	6,315	3,865	6,886	1,843
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
<u>Receipts</u>				
Amounts Specifically for New/Upgraded Assets	2,866	2,088	2,238	3,106
Sale of Renewed/Replaced Assets	259	263	357	223
Sale of Surplus Assets	114	0	0	0
Repayments of Loans by Community Groups	0	0	0	20
<u>Payments</u>				
Expenditure on Renewal/Replacement of Assets	(3,024)	(5,194)	(7,724)	(6,922)
Expenditure on New/Upgraded Assets	(3,812)	(4,572)	(4,680)	(4,849)
Loans made to Community Groups	(15)		(140)	
Net Cash Provided by (or used in) Investing Activities	(3,612)	(7,415)	(9,949)	(8,422)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
<u>Receipts</u>				
Proceeds from Borrowings	0	3,835	2,629	7,220
Proceeds from Bonds & Deposits	7			
<u>Payments</u>				
Repayments of Borrowings	(2,147)	(735)	(735)	(641)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities	(2,140)	3,100	1,894	6,579
Net Increase/(Decrease) in cash held	563	(450)	(1,170)	0
Opening cash, cash equivalents or (bank overdraft)	757	600	1,320	150
Closing cash, cash equivalents or (bank overdraft)	1,320	150	150	150

Budget Uniform Presentation of Finances

Mid Murray Council Budgeted Financial Statements 2022-23 Budget Uniform Presentation of Finances

Year ended 30 June:	2021 Audited Accounts \$('000)	2022 Adopted Budget \$('000)	2022 Current Budget \$('000)	2023 Proposed Budget \$('000)
Operating Revenues	23,567	21,936	25,460	21,663
less Operating Expenses	(24,054)	(25,957)	(25,537)	(26,997)
Operating Surplus/(Deficit) before Capital Amounts	(487)	(4,021)	(77)	(5,334)
Less: Net Outlays on Existing Assets				
Capital Expenditure on Renewal/Replacement of Existing Assets	(3,024)	(5,194)	(7,725)	(6,922)
less Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment	7,139	7,073	7,073	7,140
less Proceeds from Sale of Replaced Assets	259	263	357	223
	4,374	2,142	(295)	441
Less: Net Outlays on New and Upgraded Assets				
Capital Expenditure on New/Upgraded Assets	(3,812)	(4,572)	(4,680)	(4,850)
less Amounts Specifically for New/Upgraded Assets	2,866	2,088	2,238	3,106
less Proceeds from Sale of Surplus Assets	114	0	0	0
	(832)	(2,484)	(2,442)	(1,744)
*Net Lending / (Borrowing) for Financial Year	3,055	(4,363)	(2,814)	(6,637)

Reconciliation of *Net Lending / (Borrowing) for Financial Year

Year ended 30 June:	2021 Audited Accounts \$('000)	2022 Adopted Budget \$('000)	2022 Current Budget \$('000)	2023 Proposed Budget \$('000)
Financing Transactions				
New Borrowings		3,835	2,629	7,220
Repayment of Principal on Borrowings	(2,147)	(735)	(735)	(641)
(Increase)/Decrease in Balance Sheet Items (excl Fixed assets)	(908)	1,263	920	58
Financing Transactions	(3,055)	4,363	2,814	6,637

KEY FINANCIAL INDICATORS	2021 Audited Accounts	2022 Adopted Budget	2022 Current Budget	2023 Proposed Budget
Operating Surplus - S'000	(487)	(4,021)	(77)	(5,334)
Operating Surplus - S'000 (Adj)	(538)	(2,021)	(1,662)	(2,112)
Operating Surplus Ratio - %	(2.1)%	(18)%	(0.3)%	(24.6)%
Operating Surplus Ratio - % (Adj)	(2.3)%	(8)%	(5)%	(8.5)%
Net Financial Liabilities Ratio - %	48.0%	95.0%	53.5%	90.0%
Asset Renewal Funding Ratio - %	120%	111%	188%	136%

Appendix B

Council Services

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Council Services

Governance

The *Local Government Act 1999*, supported by a number of pieces of relevant legislation, provides the legislative framework in which Council operates. This framework reinforces the statutory authority and responsibilities of Council as a corporate body and assists elected representatives and council officers in the delivery of quality services.

Governance's role is to ensure that Council's legislative obligations with that framework are met by the Council, individual elected members and council officers.

Effective outcomes are best achieved where the role and focus of elected members as a collective corporate organisation, is directed to policy formulation and strategic development. The role of the council officers is to implement the policies and strategies of the corporate body through an accountable, effective and efficient application of resources and assets.

Governance assists the Chief Executive Officer in facilitating the balancing of these two distinct roles.

With over 380 pieces of community land, the audit was commenced in 2020- 2021 to ensure that all land owned by Council, or under Council's care and control was captured within a relevant Community Land Management Plan (CLMP). As part of the CLMP review, assessment is taking into account the way in which the community has access and use of community lands. Council's leases and licences to sporting clubs, community groups and commercial entities are also included within this review, which will provide tenure and security to those using Council land on a long term basis.

Committees

In the 2022/23 financial year, the following Committees will be continued and administered under s41 of the *Local Government Act 1999*:

- Audit Committee - Established pursuant to Section 126 of the *Local Government Act 1999*
- Strategic Planning & Development Policy Committee – Established pursuant to Schedule 6 Clause 2(1) of the *Planning, Development & Infrastructure Act 2016*
- Council Assessment Panel – Established pursuant to Section 83 of the *Planning, Development & Infrastructure Act 2016*
- Building Fire Safety Committee – Established pursuant to Section 157(17) of the *Planning, Development & Infrastructure Act 2016*
- Community Grants Assessment Committee
- CEO Performance Management Committee
- Community Wastewater Management System (CWMS) Advisory Committee
- Economic Development & Commercial Enterprises Committee
- Mannum Main Street Working Party
- Open Space and Recreation Committee
- Waste Management Advisory Committee
- Mid Murray Heritage and Maritime Committee
- Dark Sky Committee
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee

Human Resources

Human Resources is an integral area of Council ensuring sound principles of human resource management are applied to employment in the administration of Council. It deals with the administration of hiring, training, supporting and all things staff.

Efficiencies associated with fair and equitable selection processes and the provision of access to training and development for employees is ensured, along with our employees having access to suitable processes to deal with grievances, safe and healthy working conditions, and equal employment opportunities.

The area of Human Resources continues to develop and maintain legislatively compliant systems and processes that facilitate the provision of a workforce that has the capability to deliver Council's plans. These services include, but are not limited to training needs analysis, performance review and management, recruitment, interviews, grievances, employee relations, compensation and benefits, return to work and inductions.

Mid Murray Council has acknowledged organisational development as a key role to improving its conditions and services provided. Organisational Development is the practice of changing people and organisations for positive growth. This involves team building; career development; training; coaching; mentoring; innovation; leadership development; organisational culture; support and change management. Many of these practices are being considered and introduced with the focus being change management, team building and organisational culture.

Corporate and Financial Services

Finance Services

Planning and managing the monetary funds of Council to deliver the aspirations of our community - we account for our activities, act sustainably and disclose the result in a transparent manner. The service includes Financial Management & Accounting, Creditors, Procurement and Revenue collection.

Information Technology Services (IT)

Delivers flexible information technology solutions that support business operations by providing access to information and systems.

Records Management

As a result of a survey undertaken by State Records of SA, Council have developed an action plan to progress further records management compliance and will be focusing on the following outcomes:

Capture – Raise awareness and improve systems to capture a larger volume of records currently not being registered in the Electronic Document and Records Management System (EDRMS).

Disposal – Develop a disposal plan compliant with the General Disposal Schedule 20 (GDS 20).

State Government Development Portal – Ensure that the new web portal is compliant with State Government Records requirements.

Pre-amalgamation records, and Mid Murray Council records, will also be identified and sentenced accordingly to reduce risk of illegal destruction and inaccessibility.

Training – Continue with training and education to raise awareness of records management responsibilities and compliancy under the State Government legislation and *State Records Act 1997*.

Risk Management

Mid Murray Council is committed to an integrated approach to risk management to assist in setting appropriate strategies, achieving our objectives and making informed decisions, in the best interests of our community. Council recognises that managing risk is an important part of governance, is fundamental to how the organisation is managed at all levels and will contribute to continuous improvement of its management systems.

Local Government Risk Services (LGRS) provide a Risk Evaluation service to their Members, every two years. The aim of the Risk Evaluation process is to review each Member's risk management systems (including Work Health Safety and Incident Management) against both Local Government Industry agreed sector baselines and other external requirements. The objective of the evaluation is to assist Members to recognise and share risk management excellence, identify where opportunities for system improvements exist and to work in partnership with them to implement identified improvements.

As a result of the Risk Evaluation the priority system improvement projects for 2020-2021 have commenced with the assistance of LGRS focusing on Risk Management, Business Continuity, Community Emergency Management (Council Ready) and Ageing & Work Health Initiatives Program (Active Ageing).

Work Health Safety and Return to Work

The Mid Murray Council is committed to ensuring, so far as is reasonably practicable, that all workers are safe from injury and risk to health whilst they are at work. The Senior Management Team (SMT) is committed to providing visible leadership in relation to Work Health Safety and Return to Work (WHS & RTW) and to driving ongoing improvement strategies. The WHS & RTW plan is designed to strategically and systematically improve organisational WHS & RTW Management systems, processes and outcomes for Council.

The SMT in consultation with the Work Health Safety and Risk Management Coordinator, Health Safety Committee and LGRS consultants, have identified the critical key programs. The current plan's priority programs are hazard management systems for task, plant, substances and confined spaces, WHS training systems and corrective actions as a direct response to the risk evaluation results.

Council aims to protect the health and safety of all workers and minimise the effects of incidents and injuries using the hierarchy of controls, this is achieved by having a relevant and effective WHS & RTW that is compliant with legislative requirements and structured to achieve the requirements of the Return to Work SA Code of Conduct for Self Insured Employers and Performance Standards for Self Insurers (PSSI). This WHS & RTW Plan shows our commitment and planning to improve WHS & RTW management systems and Processes.

Cemeteries Administration

Council has thirty two cemeteries within the Council area, most of which are maintained by Council. Council appreciates the work of volunteers who help with some of the maintenance. A register of burials is maintained on Council's website.

Administration

Council has an administration network to cater for the size of the area, number of ratepayers and residents, tourists and community support. These comprise employees working in the following fields – Customer service, Support staff for Planning Officers, General Inspectors, Building Surveyors and Environmental Health, Senior Works Staff, Managers and Elected Members.

Council Services

Economic Development and Tourism

Economic Development

Economic development and growth is a key focus for Council's new Strategic Plan – Our Plan 2020-2024, with Council staff committed to supporting and encourage economic growth through the development of a diverse business sector, building on our critical infrastructure and technology network and growing our population.

To support administration staff, Council has two Section 41 Committees:

- **Economic Development and Commercial Enterprises Committee**

Focused on developing an Economic and Tourism Development Plan, communication and branding, investment attraction, job and skills creation, managing the commercial assets of Council including leases and agreements to ensure Council obtains an optimum value and return and foster increased collaboration across all stakeholders.

- **Mannum Main Street Working Party**

The purpose and objectives of this committee is currently being reviewed and Council is considering increasing and broadening the scope of the Committee, however it was established for the purpose of:

- Promoting the Main Street to shoppers, investors, potential and existing business and property owners and visitors and tourists;
- Creating a safe Main Street environment;
- Making recommendations to Council in relation to the maintenance and upgrading of the Main Street existing infrastructure and physical appearance; and
- Assisting where possible, to retain and expand existing businesses.

Economic Development and Tourism Partnerships

Council also works closely with Regional Development Australia – Murraylands and Riverland Inc. in respect of economic development and Murray River Lakes & Coorong Tourism Alliance and Destination Riverland in respect of tourism.

Tourism

Developing our diverse tourism sector is also a Strategic Goal, and Council provides a number of Tourism services, as outlined below:

Tourist Information Service

Council provides a tourist information service from a restored historic building adjacent to Arnold Park in Mannum. It is run by a Manager, and operated by many volunteers. Council also operates a Visitor Information Office at Morgan, operated by Council's Port of Morgan Heritage and Tourism Coordinator and volunteers. Tourist numbers visiting the Centres grow from year to year.

Council Services

Economic Development and Tourism

Mid Murray Heritage and Maritime Committee

Council is responsible for the operations of a number of maritime and heritage assets and this Committee was formed, by combining the Mannum Dock Museum Board and the Port of Morgan Heritage and Tourism Board, to oversee the management of these assets to ensure their ongoing viability, as well to provide strategic direction and advice to Council in relation to its Tourism objectives.

Tourist Caravan Parks & Camping Facilities

The Morgan and Mannum Caravan Parks are owned by Council but leased to private operators. These parks are key tourist accommodation facilities for the region.

Dividends from the operation of the Morgan and Mannum Caravan Parks are reinvested back into the community by Council to fund tourist events and initiatives, the community grants program and for the development of various economic development initiatives.

Council, in partnership with the operators, are committed to developing and growing the parks to increase tourist visitation to the region and meet the demands and trends of consumers as we recover from COVID-19.

Council, in partnership with the existing private operators, continue to investigate options to develop powered sites on a portion of Bolto Reserve whilst retaining affordable camping at Haythorpe Reserve.

Council is also developing longer-term plans for the development of other sites for tourist accommodation and camping to increase both the level and range of sites available.

Development and Environmental Services

Public Order and Safety

This service covers dog and cat control, fire protection, livestock and other general inspectorial duties. Many of the services in this area are undertaken to comply with legislative requirements, and therefore they will continue in 2022-2023.

Dogs and Cats

Council has over 2,800 dogs registered and over 300 cats registered in the area. All dog and cat registrations are conducted online via Dog and Cats Online (DACO). In addition, staff respond to noise complaints, dogs wandering at large and dog attacks/harassments. Door knocks to check on unregistered dogs are undertaken on a regular basis. Our aim through the door knocks is to make sure that all dogs are registered. This helps us to reconnect dogs wandering at large with their owners.

Fire Protection

Bushfire Prevention is a major focus of fire protection and Council employs two bushfire prevention officers. Council has a legislative responsibility to control the burning of rubbish and stubble and the issuing of fire permits during the fire danger season.

Council supports CFS crews with rural fires in the provision of water tankers. The sooner a fire can be brought under control, the less damage and distress is suffered by those affected.

Development and Environmental Services

Livestock

Council inspectors are called to investigate stock wandering on roadsides and to arrange for collection, removal and return as necessary.

On and Off Street Parking

Parking controls exist within the Council area and Council staff monitor parking areas to ensure compliance with the time limits and other restrictions that are in place. Council has a focus to ensure disabled parking is being utilised appropriately.

Camping

Mid Murray Council is a prime destination for tourists and campers who come to enjoy the River Murray, Murray Mallee and Riverland Regions. Council owns and manages a number of camping facilities and areas throughout the district. In some areas camping is limited and fees are applicable. Council's inspectors are responsible for the ongoing monitoring of these areas.

Local Nuisance and Litter Control

Council staff respond to local nuisance issues across the Council relating to noise, dust, smoke etc as well as illegal dumping and unsightly premises.

Illegal Development

Illegal development is a major issue in our Council area – especially along the River Murray. Council investigates alleged instances of illegal development (i.e. where development is undertaken without having first obtained Development Approval). Council has established service standards to assist in prioritising our investigations and enforcement action.

Where investigations reveal that unlawful development has occurred, Council's Development and Environmental Services staff are involved in taking enforcement action and assessing any subsequent development applications. These processes can involve Council's staff having to represent Council in the Environment, Resources and Development Court.

Health Immunisations

Council undertakes regular immunisation clinics for both school funded programmes along with internal staff vaccination programmes. Council has high vaccination coverage rates for school funded programmes.

Medical Centres

Council supports medical centres in the smaller river communities at Morgan and Swan Reach.

Health Inspection

Council employs qualified Environmental Health Officers to undertake a range of duties including:

- Immunisation
- Health services and inspections

Council Services

Development and Environmental Services

- Mosquito control
- Legionella control
- Wastewater system installations/approvals/inspection
- Regulation and monitoring of swimming pools
- Food premises inspections
- CWMS (effluent schemes) installation co-ordination
- European wasp control
- Drum-muster programme

Health Projects for 2022-2023 include:

- Mosquito Control Programme
- School Immunisation Programme
- Coordination and review of Regional Health Plan
- Advocating, assisting and providing mental health services
- Finalise construction of Cowirra Community Wastewater Management System
- Finalising design and costing of Wongulla Community Wastewater Management System, including public consultation.

Building and Planning Controls

Council manages building and planning controls, including policy and heritage.

Planning

The Planning and Design Code and ePlanning solution is an online development assessment platform with 'state based' planning rules which was introduced in March 2019.

Council's planning officers are also responsible for the assessment of large-scale development proposals (including renewable energy, poultry farms, wind farms, large-scale land divisions and industrial / commercial development) and more smaller-scale development (such as dwellings, river structures, verandahs and sheds).

Building

Council's building surveyors assess various commercial and domestic development applications against the relevant provisions of the National Construction Code of Australia to ensure that the structural adequacy, fire safety, access for people with disabilities, energy efficiency, and health and amenity of buildings comply with the relevant legislation.

Council is obliged under the Section 157 of the *Planning Development & Infrastructure Act 2016* to appoint a Building Fire Safety Committee. The Committee consists of relevant experts and fire authority representatives including Council building surveyors. The Committee inspects existing commercial or assembly buildings to ensure that the building complies with the relevant fire safety requirements – a potentially life saving task.

As well as these important functions the building surveying staff undertake inspections of building work in accordance with Practice Directions 8 and 9 and *Planning Development & Infrastructure Act 2016* to ensure development meets the relevant requirements for the protection of the community.

Council Services

Development and Environmental Services

Building

Based on the input from the community Council has placed greater emphasis on the environment through the adoption of Council's Strategic Plan. Key community based groups that Council collaborates with in respect of the Plan's strategies and provides in-kind support for include Mid Murray Landcare. Council continues to work with and partner the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board, Murray Darling Association Region 5 and Department for Environment and Water on joint projects, planning and service provision.

Open Space

Council developed a Plan for Open Space, Recreation and Public Realm which can be found on Council's website. As part of the project, Council has developed a Master Plan for Mary Ann Reserve at Mannum, Len White Reserve / Swan Reach Riverfront and Blanchetown. With around 500 open spaces across the area, Council has established the key priorities for future development and management and have included projects into the Long Term Financial Plan to ensure implementation. These Plans involved extensive community and stakeholder consultation in establishing the priorities.

Halls

Council maintains fourteen halls throughout the Council area. We are in the process of reviewing the future of these assets especially as many of these no longer enjoy the patronage that they had in past years

Public Conveniences

Council maintains 42 public conveniences throughout the Council area. We are in the process of reviewing the maintenance and cleaning arrangements to ensure that the toilets are regularly cleaned and maintained to a satisfactory standard.

Building Asset Maintenance

Council's Development & Environmental Services Department is responsible for the upgrading and maintenance of all Council's building assets, including buildings which are leased to various community groups (dependent on the conditions of the lease).

Council maintains over 300 buildings throughout the district including town halls and public toilets. Council has a detailed Building Maintenance Programme which includes general maintenance and capital upgrades to all of our building assets. Council sets aside a certain amount of the budget each year to continue to progress this programme. Council will finalise its new Building Asset Plan which will give Council a detailed understanding of its current building stock, current condition and lifetime costs to upgrade and maintain these buildings.

Building Asset Maintenance Projects for 2022-2023 include:

- Additional works to Mannum Institute (subject to budget allocation)
- Finalisation of Council's Building Asset Plan including completion of Building Inspection Audit.
- Installation of Solar Panels on Council buildings (Cambrai Office and Depot)
- Completion of Confined Space Audit

Council Services

Community Services

With the aim of building a community which is healthy, engaged, sustainable and connected, with a strong sense of pride and belonging, the Community Services Department facilitates active partnerships between Council, the community and key agencies to enhance opportunities for community engagement, connection and participation.

Our Community is engaged, thriving, supported and connected

We will foster, strengthen and embrace a welcoming, safe, vibrant and inclusive community by:

- Implementing the inaugural Reconciliation Action Plan
- Undertaking an evaluation of facilities to identify areas for continuous improvement
- Operating community facilities including the Mannum Leisure Centre, Morgan and Blanchetown Hubs, Morgan Activity Centre, Morgan and Blanchetown Libraries, Cambrai and Mannum Swimming Pools, the Mannum Sk8park, Fun 4 Youth and Create a Playground
- Providing a range of funding opportunities to support community initiatives through our grants program
- Activating community spaces to increase community participation
- Advocate for appropriate external outreach services that support community connection
- Delivering and supporting community events, initiatives and programs
- Supporting residents through training and skill development
- Partnering with stakeholders to advocate for community transport in the region
- Delivering the actions within the Mid Murray Council Disability Action and Inclusion Plan
- Connecting with our holiday home residents to enable them to feel a valued part of our community
- Giving young people a voice to actively participate in decision making through advisory committees

The significance of our volunteers and their contribution to the community is recognised

We will partner with volunteers to empower community by:

- Supporting the development of the Mannum Institute Committee in order to raise funds for the future redevelopment of Mannum Institute
- Assisting the Mid Murray Suicide prevention committee with the aim of increasing awareness of mental illness and suicidal behavior, to improve understanding by recognising established risk factors, and reducing stigma by challenging unhelpful perceptions and myths within the community
- Providing backbone support to the Mid Murray Family Connections network in order to decrease childhood vulnerability in the region
- Working with Progress Associations, or other key bodies within townships through the District Action Plan process
- Promoting the benefits of volunteering across the community

Community Services

The health, wellbeing and resilience of our community is enhanced

We will improve community mental health, wellbeing and resilience in Mid Murray by:

- Advocating and partnering with key stakeholders to strengthen health services throughout the region, including government and private sector investment
- Being an active member of the place based Mid Murray Our Town community led initiative to address the limits of clinical response services in our area and provide a whole of community response to mental health and wellbeing
- Supporting the Suicide Prevention Committee to deliver the Mid Murray Suicide Prevention Action Plan
- Supporting health services through the provision of Council assets – Morgan Nurse Practitioner, Morgan Chemist, , Swan Reach Health Centre
- Acknowledging and supporting the needs of our vulnerable community
- Partnering with neighbouring Council's to fulfill the requirements and objectives of the Regional Public Health Plan

Our region has appropriate open spaces and facilities to encourage sport, recreation and active lifestyles

We will aim to have thriving and welcoming community organisations and sporting clubs by:

- Developing a cohesive, streamlined, management process of our service centres
- Assisting in the review of the Open Space, Recreation and Public Realm Plan
- Providing leadership and participation in networks relating to strengthening communities
- Providing opportunities for social connection through open spaces and facilities including parks and gardens, playgrounds, riverfronts, halls, swimming pools and service centres
- Facilitating active partnerships with community organisations, sporting clubs, state sporting organisations and peak industry bodies to achieve sustainable management, inclusiveness and increased participation; including the District Action Planning process
- Seek opportunities for funding to support organisations and sporting clubs
- Facilitating opportunities for maintenance grants
- Providing support for community events

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and culture is acknowledged, valued and celebrated

We will listen, learn and engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to enhance understanding and strengthen relationships by:

- Partnering with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to implement our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)
- Embedding self-determination principles and shared decision making processes, through the establishment of S41 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee
- In partnership with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee, create culturally appropriate spaces within our organisation and our community
- Develop an Aboriginal Environmental Heritage Preservation Plan and actively support the preservation of culturally significant sites within our region

Council Services

Community Services

- Implementing a Council plan for dual naming and signage for open spaces and facilities that acknowledges and supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture throughout our region.
- Advocating to State and Federal governments for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander specific services
- Participating in whole of Council local cultural awareness training
- Partner with community to celebrate and raise awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture

Our Community connects with our region's heritage and charm

We will support and promote the region's heritage, social history, arts and cultural scene by:

- Supporting community groups to identify opportunities that foster leadership and sustainability
- Providing funding opportunities through grants to support history, arts and culture within the community
- Provide facilities which support arts and cultural activities

Infrastructure

Parks, Gardens and Reserves

Residents and visitors alike enjoy Council's high quality parks, gardens and reserves throughout the Region. Council provides some form of recreation facilities in all towns and river communities. These are regularly maintained in a clean and safe condition for everyone to enjoy.

Transport

Council has the second longest length of road network to maintain in the State and is dependent on receiving grants from State and Federal Governments to renew and upgrade all types of infrastructure, e.g. bridges, boat ramps, wharves, etc.

This includes 350 kilometres of sealed road, 2,714 kilometres of unsealed road and 15 vehicular bridges. Considerable resources are allocated to maintain this network, with a planned level of reseals, resheeting and maintenance carried out yearly. Assessment of current work practices are undertaken to align with industry standards to best deliver services to the community.

Like most other rural townships in the State, footpath networks in some towns are basic with many verges still the natural surface. Council is committed to a Footpath Construction Program to install footpaths in townships providing connectivity to facilities and major precincts. Regular weed spraying takes place to control weeds, especially caltrop and other nuisance weeds on footpaths and road verges. Roadside signage in the country faces constant vandalism and requires constant updating. Council does its best to replace signs when either vandalised or improvements are necessary to provide the appropriate information. Line marking is done on a rotation program of every 3-4 years for all urban and rural sealed roads.

Council undertakes roadside tree trimming to prevent encroachment of vegetation onto the trafficable lane. Council's maintenance team continue with works across the region to support the road renewal program and tree encroachment matters.

Council Services

Infrastructure

Street sweeping is done on urban sealed roads, with a Council owned Mechanical Sweeper which sweeps streets regularly, and more frequently, in higher profile areas. Other townships are swept on a quarterly basis either using Council machinery or contractors.

Wharf Maintenance

Council maintains number of large wharves and pontoons, recreational jetties and boardwalks. A maintenance plan includes the treatments required for the longevity of the vast wharf structures which adorn the river.

Boat Ramps

Council provides, maintains and regularly monitors boat ramps along the River Murray. A Marine Facility Plan will be adopted by Council as a future plan and priority setting for facilities.

Effluent Drainage

Council maintains Community Wastewater Management Schemes (CWMS) for shack areas and towns along the River Murray, and maintenance rates are levied to cover the costs of on-going maintenance and capital upgrades. Twenty nine CWMS and four houseboat pump out stations are maintained by Council.

Sanitation & Waste Management

Council provides a weekly household waste collection to each township within the Council area, plus a fortnightly kerbside recycling collection service. Regular street bin and reserves bins are collected on a regular basis depending on demand.

Council has implemented individual waste bin collection service for the rural areas of Council, which services rural and holiday home areas. Residential household bin services operate within the region with services ranging from front of residence pickups, collective property pickups and local Bin collection Points throughout.

Waste Transfer Stations are located at Mannum, Morgan, Cambrai, Blanchetown, Bowhill, Cadell, Swan Reach, Truro, Tungkillo and Walker Flat. A review of operations has been undertaken giving due regard to the visitation and processing of product received in order to improve the services provided to the community. Council provides ongoing Drum Muster collections at the Cambrai, Cadell, Swan Reach and Mannum Transfer Stations, in order to assist with removal of chemical containers.

Council operates a landfill facility at Cambrai where waste is transferred from the Waste Transfer Stations to the landfill facility. Council also receives waste materials from contractors and has a licensed asbestos facility.

Stormwater Drainage

In past years, Council has undertaken an extensive Kerb and Gutter installation program to improve stormwater management and prevent localised flooding. Council will adopt and commence implementation of stormwater management plans to further improve Stormwater Management throughout the Council area. The focus in the new Stormwater Management Plan will be around stormwater mitigation/prevention that is realistic and achievable within Council's financial capabilities.

Mid Murray Council

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